

# **ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL No. 1129**

DIGEST OF HB 1129 (Updated March 21, 2007 4:24 pm - DI 87)

**Citations Affected:** IC 5-14; IC 8-1; IC 21-22; IC 21-25; IC 21-27; IC 25-1.

Synopsis: Serial meetings and electronic meetings. Provides that, absent express statutory authorization, a member of the governing body of a public agency who is not physically present at a meeting but communicates with other members of the governing body during the meeting by an electronic means of communication may not participate in a final action taken at the meeting or be considered to be present at the meeting. Allows the board of trustees (and a committee of the board) of a state educational institution, the Ivy Tech board of trustees (and a committee of the board), the board of trustees of Vincennes (Continued next page)

Effective: July 1, 2007.

# Stilwell, Bauer, Grubb, Buck, Pelath, Bosma

(SENATE SPONSORS — GARD, LANANE)

January 8, 2007, read first time and referred to Committee on Government and Regulatory

January 17, 2007, amended, reported — Do Pass.
January 23, 2007, read second time, amended, ordered engrossed.
January 24, 2007, engrossed.
January 25, 2007, read third time, passed. Yeas 89, nays 7.

SENATE ACTION
February 19, 2007, read first time and referred to Committee on Local Government and

March 22, 2007, amended, reported favorably — Do Pass.



### Digest Continued

University (and a committee of the board), the governing body of a joint agency of a municipal utility program, and a board, committee, or commission administered by the Indiana professional licensing agency to conduct meetings by electronic means. Provides, with certain exceptions, that members of the governing body who participate in a series of gatherings either in person or by electronic means (excluding electronic mail) violate the open door law if: (1) one of the gatherings is attended by at least three members but less than a quorum of the members of the governing body and the other gatherings include at least two members of the governing body; (2) the total sum of different members attending all gatherings at least equals a quorum of the governing body; (3) all the gatherings concern the same subject matter and are held within a period of not more than seven days; and (4) the gatherings are held for the purpose of taking official action on public business. Excludes certain gatherings from the definition of "meeting" under the open door law.





First Regular Session 115th General Assembly (2007)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in this style type, and deletions will appear in this style type.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in this style type. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in this style type or this style type reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2006 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

# **ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL No. 1129**

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning state and local administration.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1	SECTION 1. IC 5-14-1.5-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
2	FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: Sec. 2. For the purposes of
3	this chapter:

- (a) "Public agency" means the following:
  - (1) Any board, commission, department, agency, authority, or other entity, by whatever name designated, exercising a portion of the executive, administrative, or legislative power of the state.
  - (2) Any county, township, school corporation, city, town, political subdivision, or other entity, by whatever name designated, exercising in a limited geographical area the executive, administrative, or legislative power of the state or a delegated local governmental power.
  - (3) Any entity which is subject to either:
    - (A) budget review by either the department of local government finance or the governing body of a county, city, town, township, or school corporation; or
    - (B) audit by the state board of accounts.

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1	(4) Any building corporation of a political subdivision of the state
2	of Indiana that issues bonds for the purpose of constructing public
3	facilities.
4	(5) Any advisory commission, committee, or body created by
5	statute, ordinance, or executive order to advise the governing
6	body of a public agency, except medical staffs or the committees
7	of any such staff.
8	(6) The Indiana gaming commission established by IC 4-33,
9	including any department, division, or office of the commission.
10	(7) The Indiana horse racing commission established by IC 4-31,
11	including any department, division, or office of the commission.
12	(b) "Governing body" means two (2) or more individuals who are:
13	(1) a public agency that:
14	(A) is a board, a commission, an authority, a council, a
15	committee, a body, or other entity; and
16	(B) takes official action on public business;
17	(2) the board, commission, council, or other body of a public
18	agency which takes official action upon public business; or
19	(3) any committee appointed directly by the governing body or its
20	presiding officer to which authority to take official action upon
21	public business has been delegated. An agent or agents appointed
22	by the governing body to conduct collective bargaining on behalf
23	of the governing body does not constitute a governing body for
24	purposes of this chapter.
25	(c) "Meeting" means a gathering of a majority of the governing body
26	of a public agency for the purpose of taking official action upon public
27	business. It does not include:
28	(1) any social or chance gathering not intended to avoid this
29	chapter;
30	(2) any on-site inspection of any: project or program;
31	(A) project;
32	(B) program; or
33	(C) facility of an applicant for an incentive or assistance
34	from the governing body;
35	(3) traveling to and attending meetings of organizations devoted
36	to betterment of government; or
37	(4) a caucus;
38	(5) a gathering to discuss an industrial or a commercial
39	prospect that does not include a conclusion as to
40	recommendations, policy, decisions, or final action on the
41	terms of a request or an offer of public financial resources;
42	(6) orientation of members of the governing body on their role



1	and responsibilities as public officials, but not for any other
2	official action; or
3	(7) a gathering for the sole purpose of administering an oath
4	of office to an individual.
5	(d) "Official action" means to:
6	(1) receive information;
7	(2) deliberate;
8	(3) make recommendations;
9	(4) establish policy;
10	(5) make decisions; or
11	(6) take final action.
12	(e) "Public business" means any function upon which the public
13	agency is empowered or authorized to take official action.
14	(f) "Executive session" means a meeting from which the public is
15	excluded, except the governing body may admit those persons
16	necessary to carry out its purpose.
17	(g) "Final action" means a vote by the governing body on any
18	motion, proposal, resolution, rule, regulation, ordinance, or order.
19	(h) "Caucus" means a gathering of members of a political party or
20	coalition which is held for purposes of planning political strategy and
21	holding discussions designed to prepare the members for taking official
22	action.
23	(i) "Deliberate" means a discussion which may reasonably be
24	expected to result in official action (defined under subsection (d)(3),
25	(d)(4), (d)(5), or (d)(6)).
26	(j) "News media" means all newspapers qualified to receive legal
27	advertisements under IC 5-3-1, all news services (as defined in
28	IC 34-6-2-87), and all licensed commercial or public radio or television
29	stations.
30	(k) "Person" means an individual, a corporation, a limited liability
31	company, a partnership, an unincorporated association, or a
32	governmental entity.
33	SECTION 2. IC 5-14-1.5-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
34	FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: Sec. 3. (a) Except as
35	provided in section 6.1 of this chapter, all meetings of the governing
36	bodies of public agencies must be open at all times for the purpose of
37	permitting members of the public to observe and record them.
38	(b) A secret ballot vote may not be taken at a meeting.
39	(c) A meeting conducted in compliance with IC 5-1.5-2-2.5 does not
40	violate this section.
41	(d) A member of the governing body of a public agency who is
42	not physically present at a meeting of the governing body but who



1	communicates with members of the governing body during the
2	meeting by telephone, computer, videoconferencing, or any other
3	electronic means of communication:
4	(1) may not participate in final action taken at the meeting
5	unless the member's participation is expressly authorized by
6	statute; and
7	(2) may not be considered to be present at the meeting unless
8	considering the member to be present at the meeting is
9	expressly authorized by statute.
.0	SECTION 3. IC 5-14-1.5-3.1 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
. 1	CODE AS A <b>NEW</b> SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
. 2	[EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: Sec. 3.1. (a) The governing body of a
.3	public agency violates this chapter if members of the governing
4	body participate in a series of at least two (2) gatherings of
. 5	members of the governing body and the series of gatherings meets
6	all of the following criteria:
.7	(1) One (1) of the gatherings is attended by at least three (3)
. 8	members but less than a quorum of the members of the
9	governing body and the other gatherings include at least two
20	(2) members of the governing body.
21	(2) The sum of the number of different members of the
22	governing body attending any of the gatherings equals at least
23	a quorum of the governing body.
24	(3) All the gatherings concern the same subject matter and
2.5	are held within a period of not more than seven (7) days.
26	(4) The gatherings are held to take official action on public
27	business.
28	For purposes of this subsection, a member of a governing body
29	attends a gathering if the member is present at the gathering in
30	person or if the member participates in the gathering by telephone
31	or other electronic means, excluding electronic mail.
32	(b) A gathering under subsection (a) does not include:
33	(1) a social or chance gathering not intended by any member
34	of the governing body to avoid the requirements of this
35	chapter;
56	(2) an onsite inspection of any:
37	(A) project;
8	(B) program; or
10	(C) facility of an applicant for an incentive or assistance
10	from the governing body;
11	(3) traveling to and attending meetings of organizations
12	devoted to the betterment of government;



1	(4) a caucus;	
2	(5) a gathering to discuss an industrial or a commercial	
3	prospect that does not include a conclusion as to	
4	recommendations, policy, decisions, or final action on the	
5	terms of a request or an offer of public financial resources;	
6	(6) orientation of members of the governing body on their role	
7	and responsibilities as public officials, but not for any other	
8	official action;	
9	(7) a gathering for the sole purpose of administering an oath	
10	of office to an individual; or	1
11	(8) a meeting between less than a quorum of the members of	
12	the governing body intended solely for members to engage in	
13	informal discussion concerning whether a member or	
14	members may be inclined to support a member's proposal or	
15	a particular piece of legislation and at which no other official	
16	or final action will occur.	4
17	(c) A violation described in subsection (a) is subject to section 7	
18	of this chapter.	
19	SECTION 4. IC 5-14-1.5-7 IS AMENDED TO READ AS	
20	FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: Sec. 7. (a) An action may be	
21	filed by any person in any court of competent jurisdiction to:	
22	(1) obtain a declaratory judgment;	
23	(2) enjoin continuing, threatened, or future violations of this	
24	chapter; or	
25	(3) declare void any policy, decision, or final action:	
26	(A) taken at an executive session in violation of section 3(a) of	
27	this chapter;	
28	(B) taken at any meeting of which notice is not given in	
29	accordance with section 5 of this chapter;	1
30	(C) that is based in whole or in part upon official action taken	
31	at any:	
32	(i) executive session in violation of section 3(a) of this	
33	chapter; <del>or at any</del>	
34	(ii) meeting of which notice is not given in accordance with	
35	section 5 of this chapter; or	
36	(iii) series of gatherings that violates this chapter as	
37	described in section 3.1 of this chapter; or	
38	(D) taken at a meeting held in a location in violation of section	
39	8 of this chapter.	
40	The plaintiff need not allege or prove special damage different from	
41	that suffered by the public at large.	
12	(b) Regardless of whether a formal complaint or an informal inquiry	



1	is pending before the public access counselor, any action to declare any
2	policy, decision, or final action of a governing body void, or to enter an
3	injunction which would invalidate any policy, decision, or final action
4	of a governing body, based on violation of this chapter occurring before
5	the action is commenced, shall be commenced:
6	(1) prior to the delivery of any warrants, notes, bonds, or
7	obligations if the relief sought would have the effect, if granted,
8	of invalidating the notes, bonds, or obligations; or
9	(2) with respect to any other subject matter, within thirty (30)
10	days of either:
11	(A) the date of the act or failure to act complained of; or
12	(B) the date that the plaintiff knew or should have known that
13	the act or failure to act complained of had occurred;
14	whichever is later. If the challenged policy, decision, or final action is
15	recorded in the memoranda or minutes of a governing body, a plaintiff
16	is considered to have known that the act or failure to act complained of
17	had occurred not later than the date that the memoranda or minutes are
18	first available for public inspection.
19	(c) If a court finds that a governing body of a public agency has
20	violated this chapter, it may not find that the violation was cured by the
21	governing body by only having taken final action at a meeting that
22	complies with this chapter.
23	(d) In determining whether to declare any policy, decision, or final
24	action void, a court shall consider the following factors among other
25	relevant factors:
26	(1) The extent to which the violation:
27	(A) affected the substance of the policy, decision, or final
28	action;
29	(B) denied or impaired access to any meetings that the public
30	had a right to observe and record; and
31	(C) prevented or impaired public knowledge or understanding
32	of the public's business.
33	(2) Whether voiding of the policy, decision, or final action is a
34	necessary prerequisite to a substantial reconsideration of the
35	subject matter.
36	(3) Whether the public interest will be served by voiding the
37	policy, decision, or final action by determining which of the
38	following factors outweighs the other:
39	(A) The remedial benefits gained by effectuating the public
40	policy of the state declared in section 1 of this chapter.
41	(B) The prejudice likely to accrue to the public if the policy,
42	decision, or final action is voided, including the extent to



1	which persons have relied upon the validity of the challenged
2	action and the effect declaring the challenged action void
3	would have on them.
4	(4) Whether the defendant acted in compliance with an informal
5	inquiry response or advisory opinion issued by the public access
6	counselor concerning the violation.
7	(e) If a court declares a policy, decision, or final action of a
8	governing body of a public agency void, the court may enjoin the
9	governing body from subsequently acting upon the subject matter of
0	the voided act until it has been given substantial reconsideration at a
1	meeting or meetings that comply with this chapter.
2	(f) In any action filed under this section, a court shall award
3	reasonable attorney's fees, court costs, and other reasonable expenses
4	of litigation to the prevailing party if:
5	(1) the plaintiff prevails; or
6	(2) the defendant prevails and the court finds that the action is
7	frivolous and vexatious.
8	The plaintiff is not eligible for the awarding of attorney's fees, court
9	costs, and other reasonable expenses if the plaintiff filed the action
0.	without first seeking and receiving an informal inquiry response or
1	advisory opinion from the public access counselor, unless the plaintiff
.2	can show the filing of the action was necessary to prevent a violation
23	of this chapter.
.4	(g) A court shall expedite the hearing of an action filed under this
.5	section.
6	SECTION 5. IC 8-1-2.2-31 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
7	AS A <b>NEW</b> SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
8	1, 2007]: Sec. 31. (a) This section applies to a meeting of the board
.9	of commissioners of a joint agency at which at least a quorum of
0	the board is physically present at the place where the meeting is
1	conducted.
2	(b) A member of the board of commissioners of a joint agency
3	may participate in a meeting of the board of commissioners by
4	using a means of communication that permits:
5	(1) all other members participating in the meeting; and
6	(2) all members of the public physically present at the place
7	where the meeting is conducted;
8	to simultaneously communicate with each other during the
9	meeting.
10	(c) A member of the board of commissioners of a joint agency
1	who participates in a meeting under subsection (b) is considered to



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be present at the meeting.

1	(d) The memoranda of a meeting of the board of commissioners	
2	of a joint agency prepared under IC 5-14-1.5-4 must state the name	
3	of:	
4	(1) each member who was physically present at the place	
5	where the meeting was conducted;	
6	(2) each member who participated in the meeting by using a	
7	means of communication described in subsection (b); and	
8	(3) each member who was absent.	
9	SECTION 6. IC 21-22-3-5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE	
10	AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY	
11	1, 2007]: Sec. 5. (a) This section applies to a meeting of the state	
12	board or a committee of the state board at which at least a quorum	
13	of the board or the committee is physically present at the place	
14	where the meeting is conducted.	
15	(b) A member of the state board or a committee of the state	
16	board may participate in a meeting of the state board or a	
17	committee of the state board by using a means of communication	
18	that permits:	
19	(1) all other members participating in the meeting; and	
20	(2) all members of the public physically present at the place	
21	where the meeting is conducted;	
22	to simultaneously communicate with each other during the	
23	meeting.	
24	(c) A member who participates in a meeting under subsection	
25	(b) is considered to be present at the meeting.	
26	(d) The memoranda of the meeting prepared under	
27	IC 5-14-1.5-4 must state the name of:	
28	(1) each member who was physically present at the place	
29	where the meeting was conducted;	
30	(2) each member who participated in the meeting by using a	
31	means of communication described in subsection (b); and	
32	(3) each member who was absent.	
33	SECTION 7. IC 21-25-3-8 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE	
34	AS A <b>NEW</b> SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY	
35	1, 2007]: Sec. 8. (a) This section applies to a meeting of the board	
36	of trustees or a committee of the board of trustees at which at least	
37	a quorum of the board or the committee is physically present at the	
38	place where the meeting is conducted.	
39	(b) A member of the board or a committee of the board may	
40	participate in a meeting of the board or the committee by using a	
41	means of communication that permits:	

(1) all other members participating in the meeting; and



1	(2) all members of the public physically present at the place
2	where the meeting is conducted;
3	to simultaneously communicate with each other during the
4	meeting.
5	(c) A member who participates in a meeting under subsection
6	(b) is considered to be present at the meeting.
7	(d) The memoranda of the meeting prepared under
8	IC 5-14-1.5-4 must state the name of:
9	(1) each member who was physically present at the place
10	where the meeting was conducted;
11	(2) each member who participated in the meeting by using a
12	means of communication described in subsection (b); and
13	(3) each member who was absent.
14	SECTION 8. IC 21-27-2-2 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
15	AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
16	1, 2007]: Sec. 2. (a) This section applies to a meeting of the board
17	of trustees or a committee of the board of trustees of any state
18	educational institution (as defined in IC 21-7-13-32).
19	(b) A member of the board of trustees may participate in a
20	meeting of the board at which at least a quorum is physically
21	present at the place where the meeting is conducted by using a
22	means of communication that permits:
23	(1) all other members participating in the meeting; and
24	(2) all members of the public physically present at the place
25	where the meeting is conducted;
26	to simultaneously communicate with each other during the
27	meeting.
28	(c) A member of a committee of the board of trustees may
29	participate in a committee meeting by using a means of
30	communication that permits:
31	(1) all other members participating in the meeting; and
32	(2) all members of the public physically present at the place
33	where the meeting is conducted;
34	to simultaneously communicate with each other during the
35	meeting.
36	(d) A member who participates in a meeting under subsection
37	(b) or (c) is considered to be present at the meeting.
38	(e) The memoranda of the meeting prepared under
39	IC 5-14-1.5-4 must state the name of:
40	(1) each member who was physically present at the place
41	where the meeting was conducted;
42	(2) each member who participated in the meeting by using a



1	means of communication described in subsection (b) or (c);	
2	and	
3	(3) each member who was absent.	
4	SECTION 9. IC 25-1-14 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS	
5	A <b>NEW</b> CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY	
6	1, 2007]:	
7	Chapter 14. Meetings	
8	Sec. 1. This chapter applies to a meeting of a board, committee,	
9	or commission listed in IC 25-1-5-3 or IC 25-1-6-3.	
10	Sec. 2. A member of a board, committee, or commission may	
11	participate in a meeting of the board, committee, or commission by	
12	using a means of communication that permits:	
13	(1) all other members participating in the meeting; and	
14	(2) all members of the public physically present at the place	
15	where the meeting is conducted;	
16	to simultaneously communicate with each other during the	
17	meeting.	U
18	Sec. 3. A member who participates in a meeting under section	
19	2 of this chapter:	
20	(1) is considered to be present at the meeting;	
21	(2) shall be counted for purposes of establishing a quorum;	
22	and	
23	(3) may vote at the meeting.	
24	Sec. 4. The memoranda of the meeting prepared under	
25	IC 5-14-1.5-4 must state the name of:	
26	(1) each member who was physically present at the place	
27	where the meeting was conducted;	
28	(2) each member who participated in the meeting by using a	V
29	means of communication described in section 2 of this	
30	chapter; and	
3.1	(3) each member who was absent	

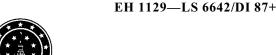


#### COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Speaker: Your Committee on Government and Regulatory Reform, to which was referred House Bill 1129, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the House with the recommendation that said bill be amended as follows:

Page 1, delete lines 1 through 17, begin a new paragraph and insert: "SECTION 1. IC 5-14-1.5-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: Sec. 2. For the purposes of this chapter:

- (a) "Public agency" means the following:
  - (1) Any board, commission, department, agency, authority, or other entity, by whatever name designated, exercising a portion of the executive, administrative, or legislative power of the state.
  - (2) Any county, township, school corporation, city, town, political subdivision, or other entity, by whatever name designated, exercising in a limited geographical area the executive, administrative, or legislative power of the state or a delegated local governmental power.
  - (3) Any entity which is subject to either:
    - (A) budget review by either the department of local government finance or the governing body of a county, city, town, township, or school corporation; or
    - (B) audit by the state board of accounts.
  - (4) Any building corporation of a political subdivision of the state of Indiana that issues bonds for the purpose of constructing public facilities.
  - (5) Any advisory commission, committee, or body created by statute, ordinance, or executive order to advise the governing body of a public agency, except medical staffs or the committees of any such staff.
  - (6) The Indiana gaming commission established by IC 4-33, including any department, division, or office of the commission.
  - (7) The Indiana horse racing commission established by IC 4-31, including any department, division, or office of the commission.
- (b) "Governing body" means two (2) or more individuals who are:
  - (1) a public agency that:
    - (A) is a board, a commission, an authority, a council, a committee, a body, or other entity; and
    - (B) takes official action on public business;
  - (2) the board, commission, council, or other body of a public agency which takes official action upon public business; or
  - (3) any committee appointed directly by the governing body or its











presiding officer to which authority to take official action upon public business has been delegated. An agent or agents appointed by the governing body to conduct collective bargaining on behalf of the governing body does not constitute a governing body for purposes of this chapter.

- (c) "Meeting" means a gathering of a majority of the governing body of a public agency for the purpose of taking official action upon public business. It does not include:
  - (1) any social or chance gathering not intended to avoid this chapter;
  - (2) any on-site inspection of any project or program;
  - (3) traveling to and attending meetings of organizations devoted to betterment of government; or
  - (4) a caucus;
  - (5) a meeting between one (1) member of the governing body and at least one (1) other individual who is not a member of the governing body concerning public business;
  - (6) a gathering to receive information about an industrial or commercial prospect that does not include a discussion of the terms of a request or an offer of public financial resources; or
  - (7) a gathering for the sole purpose of administering an oath of office to an individual.
  - (d) "Official action" means to:
    - (1) receive information;
    - (2) deliberate;
    - (3) make recommendations;
    - (4) establish policy;
    - (5) make decisions; or
    - (6) take final action.
- (e) "Public business" means any function upon which the public agency is empowered or authorized to take official action.
- (f) "Executive session" means a meeting from which the public is excluded, except the governing body may admit those persons necessary to carry out its purpose.
- (g) "Final action" means a vote by the governing body on any motion, proposal, resolution, rule, regulation, ordinance, or order.
- (h) "Caucus" means a gathering of members of a political party or coalition which is held for purposes of planning political strategy and holding discussions designed to prepare the members for taking official action.
- (i) "Deliberate" means a discussion which may reasonably be expected to result in official action (defined under subsection (d)(3),













- (d)(4), (d)(5), or (d)(6).
- (j) "News media" means all newspapers qualified to receive legal advertisements under IC 5-3-1, all news services (as defined in IC 34-6-2-87), and all licensed commercial or public radio or television stations.
- (k) "Person" means an individual, a corporation, a limited liability company, a partnership, an unincorporated association, or a governmental entity.

SECTION 2. IC 5-14-1.5-3.1 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: Sec. 3.1. (a) A governing body of a public agency violates this chapter if members of the governing body participate in a series of at least two (2) gatherings of members of the governing body and the series of gatherings meets:

- (1) the definition of "meeting" under section 2 of this chapter; and
- (2) all of the following criteria:
  - (A) Each gathering is attended by at least two (2) members but less than a quorum of the members of the governing body.
  - (B) The sum of the number of different members of the governing body attending any of the gatherings equals at least a quorum of the governing body.
  - (C) All the gatherings concern the same subject matter and are held within a period of not more than seven (7) days.
  - (D) The gatherings are held to take official action on public business.

For purposes of this subsection, a member of a governing body attends a gathering if the member is present at the gathering in person or if the member participates in the gathering by telephone or other electronic means, excluding electronic mail."

- Page 2, delete lines 1 through 16.
- Page 2, line 17, delete "(c)" and insert "(b)".

Page 2, between lines 18 and 19, begin a new paragraph and insert: "SECTION 3. IC 5-14-1.5-6.1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.101-2006, SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: Sec. 6.1. (a) As used in this section, "public official" means a person:

- (1) who is a member of a governing body of a public agency; or
- (2) whose tenure and compensation are fixed by law and who executes an oath.
- (b) Executive sessions may be held only in the following instances:



C



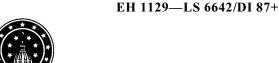


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- (1) Where authorized by federal or state statute.
- (2) For discussion of strategy with respect to any of the following:
  - (A) Collective bargaining.
  - (B) Initiation of litigation or litigation that is either pending or has been threatened specifically in writing.
  - (C) The implementation of security systems.
  - (D) The purchase or lease of real property by the governing body up to the time a contract or option to purchase or lease is executed by the parties.

However, all such strategy discussions must be necessary for competitive or bargaining reasons and may not include competitive or bargaining adversaries.

- (3) For discussion of the assessment, design, and implementation of school safety and security measures, plans, and systems.
- (4) Interviews with industrial or commercial prospects or agents of industrial or commercial prospects by the Indiana economic development corporation, the office of tourism development, the Indiana finance authority, or economic development commissions. a governing body of a political subdivision.
- (5) To receive information about and interview prospective employees.
- (6) With respect to any individual over whom the governing body has jurisdiction:
  - (A) to receive information concerning the individual's alleged misconduct; and
  - (B) to discuss, before a determination, the individual's status as an employee, a student, or an independent contractor who is:
    - (i) a physician; or
    - (ii) a school bus driver.
- (7) For discussion of records classified as confidential by state or federal statute.
- (8) To discuss before a placement decision an individual student's abilities, past performance, behavior, and needs.
- (9) To discuss a job performance evaluation of individual employees. This subdivision does not apply to a discussion of the salary, compensation, or benefits of employees during a budget process.
- (10) When considering the appointment of a public official, to do the following:
  - (A) Develop a list of prospective appointees.
  - (B) Consider applications.











(C) Make one (1) initial exclusion of prospective appointees from further consideration.

Notwithstanding IC 5-14-3-4(b)(12), a governing body may release and shall make available for inspection and copying in accordance with IC 5-14-3-3 identifying information concerning prospective appointees not initially excluded from further consideration. An initial exclusion of prospective appointees from further consideration may not reduce the number of prospective appointees to fewer than three (3) unless there are fewer than three (3) prospective appointees. Interviews of prospective appointees must be conducted at a meeting that is open to the public.

- (11) To train school board members with an outside consultant about the performance of the role of the members as public officials.
- (12) To prepare or score examinations used in issuing licenses, certificates, permits, or registrations under IC 15-5-1.1 or IC 25.(13) To discuss information and intelligence intended to prevent, mitigate, or respond to the threat of terrorism.
- (c) A final action must be taken at a meeting open to the public.
- (d) Public notice of executive sessions must state the subject matter by specific reference to the enumerated instance or instances for which executive sessions may be held under subsection (b). The requirements stated in section 4 of this chapter for memoranda and minutes being made available to the public is modified as to executive sessions in that the memoranda and minutes must identify the subject matter considered by specific reference to the enumerated instance or instances for which public notice was given. The governing body shall certify by a statement in the memoranda and minutes of the governing body that no subject matter was discussed in the executive session other than the subject matter specified in the public notice.
- (e) A governing body may not conduct an executive session during a meeting, except as otherwise permitted by applicable statute. A meeting may not be recessed and reconvened with the intent of circumventing this subsection.".

Renumber all SECTIONS consecutively.

and when so amended that said bill do pass.

(Reference is to HB 1129 as introduced.)

STEVENSON, Chair

Committee Vote: yeas 8, nays 1.

EH 1129-LS 6642/DI 87+

C







### **HOUSE MOTION**

Mr. Speaker: I move that House Bill 1129 be amended to read as follows:

Page 4, line 33 after "Interviews" insert "and negotiations".

(Reference is to HB 1129 as printed January 18, 2007.)

**STILWELL** 

### **HOUSE MOTION**

Mr. Speaker: I move that House Bill 1129 be amended to read as follows:

Page 2, line 30, after "of any" insert ":

(A)".

Page 2, line 30, after "project" insert ";".

Page 2, line 30, strike "or".

Page 2, line 30, before "program" begin a new line double block indented and insert:

"(B)".

Page 2, line 30, after "program;" insert "or

(C) facilities of applicants for incentives or assistance from the governing body;".

Page 4, line 2, after "(7)" insert "consecutive".

(Reference is to HB 1129 as printed January 18, 2007.)

**STILWELL** 

## **HOUSE MOTION**

Mr. Speaker: I move that House Bill 1129 be amended to read as follows:

Page 3, line 33, delete "meets:" and insert "meets all of the following requirements:".

Page 3, line 34, after "(1)" insert "Except as provided in subsection (b), the series of gatherings meets".

Page 3, line 34, delete ";" and insert ".".

Page 3, delete line 35.

Page 3, line 36, after "(2)" insert "The series of gatherings meets".

EH 1129—LS 6642/DI 87+



C







Page 4, line 3, delete "The" and insert "Except as provided in subsection (b), the".

Page 4, between lines 8 and 9, begin a new paragraph and insert:

- "(b) A series of gatherings in which each gathering is attended by:
  - (1) the presiding officer of the governing body; and
  - (2) not more than one (1) other member of the governing body;

does not violate this section, if the purpose of the gatherings is only to receive information and not for the purpose of taking any other official action on public business.".

Page 4, line 9, delete "(b)" and insert "(c)".

(Reference is to HB 1129 as printed January 18, 2007.)

STILWELL

#### COMMITTEE REPORT

Madam President: The Senate Committee on Local Government and Elections, to which was referred House Bill No. 1129, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the Senate with the recommendation that said bill be AMENDED as follows:

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert the following:

(SEE TEXT OF BILL)

and when so amended that said bill do pass.

(Reference is to HB 1129 as reprinted January 24, 2007.)

LAWSON C, Chairperson

Committee Vote: Yeas 9, Nays 1.

C







